January 1939

Review of “Labor Law,” By Abraham Rotwein and Noah Rotwein

Tyrrell Williams

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given its date as 1590. Coke was junior counsel in Shelley's Case and not judge; the decision was in 1581; and the first volume of *The Reports* was published in 1600.

One of the most interesting and best written chapters in the book is "Blackstone in America," in which his influence is shown to have been greater in America than in England. The lectures, the *Analysis*, and the *Commentaries* were all brought to America within a year or two after their appearance in England and attracted greater attention in a new country looking for legal instruction and as yet without law schools. Blackstone's ideas had many traditions and influences to contend with in England; in America none. There he was at once triumphant and his ideas and books were adopted by Revolutionary leaders, by the new law schools, and by the framers of the Constitution.

ROLAND G. USHER.†


This small and well-manufactured book is intended primarily for the use of students to supplement the standard case method of instruction in the field of labor law. The volume undoubtedly will be of value also to the many practicing lawyers who, although not specialists in the law of industrial relations, are occasionally called upon to advise clients actually or potentially involved in labor disputes. In addition to 195 pages of text, the volume contains five appendices, concerned chiefly with recent legislation, and a well-prepared index.

This work of Messrs. Rotwein may properly be described as modernistic. Of the 195 pages of text not more than 80 are devoted to common law, equity, and legislation as manifested in this country and England before 1914, when the Clayton Act was passed. The remaining portion of the book has to do chiefly with the American law of labor relations, both federal and state, as expanded and modified during the past twenty-five years, with particular attention paid to the Norris-LaGuardia Act of 1932, the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. The Table of Cases cites about 425 judicial and administrative opinions, and far more than a majority of these opinions were rendered since 1914.

A commendable feature of the book is the reference to certain experimental statutes which apparently influenced Congress in finally passing the more monumental statutes which, with a changed attitude on the part of judicial tribunals, have done so much to modify American labor law in recent years. Preceding the Norris-LaGuardia Act was the Clayton Act and certain state statutes intended to limit the equity powers of state courts in the matter of issuing injunctions. Preceding the National Labor Relations Act were the Erdman Act, the Railway Labor Act, and the

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1 P. 114.

† Professor of History, Washington University.
National Industrial Recovery Act. Preceding the Fair Labor Standards Act were statutes, somewhat similar in purpose, in Massachusetts, the District of Columbia, and in many other states.

This book on American labor law is probably the best now available with respect to timeliness, conciseness, and adequate citation of leading authorities.

TYRRELL WILLIAMS.†

BOOKS RECEIVED


† Professor of Law, Washington University.